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1. A video communication system comprising:

- (a) at least one analog video-signal source;
- (b) at least one video display device;
- (c) at least one control communication component configured
 - (i) to produce digital control-signals; and
- (d) an unshielded twisted pair of wires
 - (i) defining a UTP communication path,
 - (ii) arranged for video-signal transportation,

wherein the system is configured to

- (i) multiplex
 - (1) analog video-signals,
 - a. originating at one of the video-signal sources,
 - (2) with digital control-signals;
 - a. from one of the control communication components
- (ii) transmit
 - (1) the multiplexed signals
 - (2) along the UTP communication path,
 - (3) to at least one of the video display devices, and
- (iii) use
 - (1) the control-signals
 - (2) to control reproduction of video images,
 - a. based on the video-signals,

2. The video communication system of claim 1, further comprising

- (a) at least one analog audio-signal source; and
- (b) at least one audio reproduction device,

wherein the system is configured to

- (i) multiplex
 - (1) the analog video-signals
 - (2) with the digital control-signals, and
 - (3) with analog audio-signals
 - a. originating at one of the audio-signal sources;
- (ii) transmit
 - (1) these multiplexed signals
 - (2) along the UTP communication path; and
- (iii) reproduce audio
 - (1) based on the audio-signals
 - (2) at one of the audio reproduction devices.

3. The system of claim 2, further comprising:

- (a) at least one switch
 - (i) in communication with the UTP communication path,

wherein the system is configured to

- (i) control the switch
- (ii) to route
 - (1) the multiplexed signals

(2) along the UTP communication path.

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4. The system of claim 3, further comprising:

(a) at least one server

(i) configured to

(1) control the switch.

5. The system of claim 2, further comprising

(a) at least two video display devices

(i) each having an associated processor

(ii) to each define a workstation, and

wherein the system is configured

(i) to control the reproduction of video images and spoken audio

(1) of a first workstation user

(2) at the workstation of a second workstation user.

6. The system of claim 5, wherein the system is configured to

(a) reproduce the video images,

(i) at greater than 20 frames per second,

(ii) on at least one of the display devices.

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7. The system of claim 6, wherein the system is configured

(a) to combine video images

(i) of at least a first and a second user

(ii) into a mosaic image, and

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8. The system of claim 6, wherein the system is configured:

- (a) to allow a first user
 - (i) to use a first graphical user interface
 - (ii) to select a user
 - (iii) from a plurality of users; and
- (b) to allow the first user
 - (i) to use a second graphical user interface
 - (ii) to select a collaboration type
 - (iii) from a group of collaboration types; and
- (c) to respond
 - (i) by establishing communication
 - (ii) of the selected collaboration type
 - (iii) between the first user and
 - (iv) the selected user.
 - (v) the selected user.

8. The system of claim 2, comprising:

- (a) at least one processor
 - (i) capable of providing data conferencing signals; wherein the system is configured to
 - (ii) display information,
 - (1) based on the data conferencing signals,

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(2) on one of the display devices.

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10. The system of claim 9, wherein

(a) images

- (i) based on the video signals
- (ii) can be displayed
- (iii) in a first window on the display device, and

(b) information

- (i) based on the data conferencing signals
- (ii) can be displayed
- (iii) in a second window on the display device.

11. The system of claim 9, wherein

(a) the information

- (i) based on the data conferencing signals
- (ii) is displayed
- (iii) interactively
- (iv) on at least two of the display devices.

12. A method of conducting a teleconference using a system including

at least one video display device, and
at least one video signal source

the method comprising the steps of:

(a) generating analog video-signals,
(i) at one of the video-signal sources;

(b) producing digital control-signals;

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15. The method of claim 12, wherein the system includes

at least one audio source and

at least one audio reproduction device,

the method further comprising the steps of:

(a) transporting audio signals,

(i) originating at one of the audio sources;

(ii) over the UTP communication path; and

(b) reproducing audio

(i) based on the transported audio signals

(ii) at one of the audio reproduction device.

13. The method of claim 12, further comprising the step of:

(a) switching the signals

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(i) over the UTP communication path.

15. The method of claim 13, wherein the system includes

(a) at least two of the video display devices

- (i) each having an associated processor
- (ii) to each define a workstation.

the method further comprising the step of

- (i) displaying images at a workstation.

16. The method of claim 15, wherein

(a) the video images are reproduced

- (i) at greater than 20 frames per second,
- (ii) at a workstation.

17. The method of claim *15*, further comprising the steps of:

(a) combining video images

- (i) of at least a first and a second user
- (ii) into a mosaic image, and

(b) reproducing the mosaic image

- (i) on at least one of the video display devices.

18. The method of claim *15*, further comprising the steps of:

(a) allowing a first user

- (i) to use a first graphical user interface
- (ii) to select a user

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- (iii) from a plurality of users;
- (b) allowing the first user
 - (i) to use a second graphical user interface
 - (ii) to select a collaboration type
 - (iii) from a group of collaboration types; and
- (c) responding
 - (i) by establishing communication
 - (ii) of the selected collaboration type
 - (iii) from the first user to
 - (iv) the selected user.

19. The method of claim 15, further comprising the steps of:

- (a) generating data conferencing signals;
- (b) transmitting the data conferencing signals
 - (i) over at least one data communication path
- (c) displaying information,
 - (i) based on the transmitted data conferencing signals,
 - (ii) on at least one of the video display devices.

20. The method of claim 19, further comprising the steps of:

- (a) reproducing images
 - (i) based on the video signals
 - (ii) in a first window on the display device, and
- (b) displaying information
 - (i) based on the data conference signals

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21. A video communication system

for operation with an infrastructure including

- (ii) in a second window on the display device.

at least one analog video-signal source;

at least one video display device; and

an unshielded twisted pair of wires

defining a UTP communication path

arranged for video signal transportation,

the system comprising:

- (a) at least one control communication component configured to,
produce digital control-signals; and

wherein the system is configured to

- (i) multiplex
 - (1) analog video-signals,
 - a. originating at a video-signal source,
 - (2) with digital control-signals
 - a. from one of the control communication components,
- (ii) transmit the multiplexed signals
 - (1) along the UTP communication path;
 - (2) to at least one of the video display devices; and
- (iii) use the control-signals to
 - (1) control reproduction of video images,
 - a. based on the video-signals,
 - b. one of the video display devices.

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The video communication system of claim 21, wherein the infrastructure further includes
at least one analog audio-signal source; and
at least one audio reproduction device, and
wherein the system is configured to

(i) multiplex

- (1) the analog video-signals
- (2) with the digital control signals, and
- (3) with analog audio-signals

a. originating at one of the audio-signal sources;

(ii) transmit

- (1) these multiplexed signals
- (2) along the UTP communication path; and

(iii) reproduce audio

- (1) based on the audio-signals
- (2) at one of the audio reproduction devices.

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23. The system of claim 22,

(a) wherein the control components are further configured to control

- (i) a switch
- (ii) to route the multiplexed signals
- (1) along the UTP communication path.

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The system of claim 23, wherein the system further comprises:

(a) at least one server

(i) configured to

Subj (1) control the switch.

25. The system of claim 22, wherein the infrastructure further includes:

- (a) at least two video display devices
 - (i) each having an associated processor
 - (ii) to each define a workstation, and

wherein the system is configured

- (i) to control the reproduction of video images and spoken audio
 - (1) of a first workstation user
 - (2) at the workstation of a second workstation user.

26. The system of claim 25, wherein the system is configured to

- (a) reproduce the video images,
 - (i) at greater than 20 frames per second,
 - (ii) on at least one of the display devices.

27. The system of claim 26, wherein the system is configured

- (a) to combine video images
 - (i) of at least a first and a second user
 - (ii) into a mosaic image, and
- (b) to reproduce the mosaic image
 - (i) on at least one of the video display devices.

28. The system of claim 26, wherein the system is configured:

- (a) to allow a first user

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- (i) to use a first graphical user interface
- (ii) to select a user
- (iii) from a plurality of users; and

(b) to allow the first user

- (i) to use a second graphical user interface
- (ii) to select a collaboration type
- (iii) from a group of collaboration types; and

(c) to respond

- (i) by establishing communication
- (ii) of the selected collaboration type
- (iii) between the first user and
- (iv) the selected user.
- (v) the selected user.

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26. 27. The system of claim 24, wherein the system is configured:

- (a) to transport data conferencing signals
 - (1) originating at a processor,
 - (2) to at least one of the display devices,
- (b) display video images,
 - (1) based on the carried video signals,
 - (2) on the display device, and
- (c) display information,
 - (1) based on the carried data conferencing signals,
 - (2) on the display device.

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30. The system of claim 29, wherein:

- (a) images
 - (i) based on the video signals
 - (ii) can be displayed
 - (iii) in a first window on the display device, and
- (b) information
 - (i) based on the data conference signals
 - (ii) can be displayed
 - (iii) in a second window on the display device.

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31. The system of claim 29, wherein

- (a) the information
 - (i) based on the data conferencing signals
 - (ii) is displayed
 - (iii) interactively
 - (iv) on at least two of the display devices.

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